

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, IT

SUBJECT: REVIEW ON U.S.-ITALY AGREEMENT ON S AND T
COOPERATION

REF: ROME 11537

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES EMBASSY'S ASSESSMENT OF VISIT
OF NSF OFFICIALS AND OF ITALIAN AND EMBASSY VIEWS OF PRO-
POSED REVIEW OF U.S. AND ITALY S AND T COOPERATION SCHED-
ULED FOR JANUARY 1978.

2. RE GOALS OF REVIEW, DEPARTMENT FEELS THIRD OBJECTIVE
SHOULD BE TO DEFINE CURRENT PROGRAM. INTENTION IS THAT
INVENTORY WOULD PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY TO IDENTIFY MUTUALLY
BENEFICIAL PROGRAMS.

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3. DEPARTMENT CONCURS IN FOLLOWING EMBASSY COMMENTS:

A. PRIVATE INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION WILL NOT BE INCLUDED IN
REVIEW AND FORMAL INDUSTRY PARTICIPATION IN JANUARY NOT
ANTICIPATED (PARA 4).

B. U.S. SIDE DOES NOT EXPECT STATE DEPARTMENT ROLE TO INCLUDE CENTRALIZED CONTROL OVER APPROVAL OR DIRECTION OF

S AND T COOPERATION. IN ATTEMPTING TO DEAL WITH DIVERSE OPINION WITHIN ITALIAN MINISTRY, SUGGEST CARE TO AVOID APPEARANCE OF ACTIVITY IN INTERNAL POLITICS (PARA 5).

C. NSF NOT IN POSITION TO COMMIT ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO THE ITALIAN PROGRAM AT THIS TIME, BUT LOOK FOR AREAS OF SCIENTIFIC ENDEAVOR WHICH ARE MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL THAT CAN BE CHOSEN ON SCIENTIFIC MERIT (PARA 6).

D. U.S. PREPARED TO RAISE VISIBILITY OF S AND T COOPERATION BY SUCH MEANS AS PROPOSED REVIEW BUT DOES NOT WISH TO CENTRALIZE OR INSTITUTIONALIZE COOPERATION.

4. DEPARTMENT UNDERSTOOD BOTH SIDES WOULD PREPARE INVENTORIES AND THAT INFORMATION WOULD BE EXCHANGED PRIOR TO CONFERENCE. UNLESS EMBASSY KNOWS OF CHANGE, REQUEST FORMAL NOTE REFLECT THIS ADDITION (PARA 11).

5. AS NSF DOES IN OTHER AGREEMENTS IN WHICH IT IS EXECUTIVE AGENT, WE FEEL NSF SHOULD PROVIDE LEADERSHIP FOR REVIEW. STATE WILL ASSIST IN ANY WAY IT CAN, PARTICULARLY IN SOLICITING INFORMATION FROM TECHNICAL AGENCIES. VANCE
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